

Message Text

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2101 CONSTITUTION AVE NW WASHDC
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ERDA FOR LIVERMAN, WHITNAH, EDINGTON; NAS FOR KENNEDY,
JABLON, LROPP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, JA
SUBJECT: BUDGET CARRYOVER AND LOW DOSE EXPERIMENTS

REF: TOKYO 6515

1. ERDA SCIREP MET WITH MHW BUREAU HEALTH DIRECTOR SABURI FOR EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS ON USE OF 88 MILLION YEN BUDGET CARRYOVER AS FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION TO HIROSHIMA JUNE 8 MEETING EDINGTON, JABLON, KROPP, SABURI, HENOCHE AT WHICH SABURI INDICATED THE QUOTE AND OTHER PURPOSES UNQUOTE IN PARA 2 REFTEL NOT ACCEPTABLE TO GOJ BUT PRINCIPLE UNCHANGED. ALSO PRESENT AT MTG AS OBSERVERS WERE: H. KUROKAWA, DIRECTOR, PLANNING DIVISION, AND K. MIYASHITA, PLANNING DIVISION, MHW. DISCONNECT BETWEEN MHW TOKYO AND RERF ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION (EMORI) IDENTIFIED BY NAS REPS DURING VISIT PRIOR TO MEETING SYMPTOMATIC OF COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION PROBLEM IN GOJ.

2. SABURI POSITION ON USE CARRYOVER FUNDS FOR OTHER THAN RETIREMENT PURPOSES EVEN FARTHER FROM ORIGINAL (REFTEL) STANCE THAN AT JUNE 8 MTG. IT IS APPARENT THAT FIN MIN AND ALSO PERHAPS OTHER MHW STAFF DID NOT AGREE WITH INITIAL LIBERAL SABURI
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APPROACH AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 REFTEL.

3. SABURI PROPOSED NUMEROUS ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS TO PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON ARRANGEMENT:

A. MAY BE MORE RETIREMENT THAN BUDGET FOR IN CURRENT RERF BUDGET AND CARRYOVER FUNDS SHOULD BE USED FIRST FOR THESE PURPOSES.

B. JFY 1976 RERF BUDGET HAS ONLY 5 PCT FOR WAGE INCREASES. SINCE INCREASES EXPECTED TO EXCEED THIS, COULD USE CARRYOVER FOR THIS AS SECOND PRIORITY.

C. HOLD FOR REDUCTION SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET LATER IN YEAR.

D. SET ASIDE FOR ANNUAL ACCUMULATION.

E. HOLD UNTIL CURRENT BUDGET FULLY EXPENDED OR COMMITTED, THEN MAKE DECISION FOR DISPOSITION.

4. SCIREP REITERATED BACKGROUND, I.E.; 1) ACT OF ENDOWMENT AGREEMENT THAT RERF WOULD DECIDE UPON DISPOSITION CARRYOVER FUNDS, AND 2) SPECIFIC AGREEMENT IN THIS INSTANCE THAT FUNDS COULD BE USED FOR HIRING OF PERSONNEL TO MOVE AHEAD QUICKLY ON STRONGLY ENDORSED BGS WORK.

5. SABURI THEN SUGGESTED SETTING ASIDE EXCESS TO BUILD FUND OVER PERIOD OF YEARS DURING WHICH TIME GOJ AND US THINKING WOULD GRADUALLY COINCIDE. THIS WAS SIMILAR TO HIS THINKING AT JUNE 8 MEETING. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SINCE CURRENT BUDGET IS NOT FULLY COMMITTED, FOUNDATION SHOULD HOLD OFF ON COMMITMENT OF CARRYOVER FUNDS AND COMMIT ONLY IF CLEAR INDICATION THAT CURRENT BUDGET INSUFFICIENT.

6. SCIREP RESTATED UNDERSTANDING THAT SUGGESTED USE CARRYOVER FUNDS FOR BGS NOT RPT NOT BASED UPON INTENTION TO PURPOSEFULLY OVERBUDGET IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL FUND BUT, RATHER, TO EXERCISE BOARD DESIRE TO USE EXISTING UNUSED FUNDS TO MOVE HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAM ALONG MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY.

7. SABURI REPEATEDLY REITERATED FIN MIN RESTRICTIONS AGAINST UNCLASSIFIED

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USING FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND HOPE THAT IN FUTURE THOSE RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE LIFTED. SCIREP INDICATED THAT US HAD AGREED TO THIS AND IT WAS NOT BASIC PROBLEM.

8. SABURI REFERRED TO CURRENT BUDGET PROVISION FOR 46 PROFESSIONALS OF WHICH JUST 40 ARE NOW ON BOARD AND USED THIS AS BASIS FOR GO-SLOW APPROACH ON COMMITMENT CARRYOVER FUNDS. AT SAME TIME, SABURI BROUGHT UP POINT THAT RERF POLICY TO HOLD TO

FIXED TOTAL PERSONNEL CEILING. SINCE RERF REPLACING NONPROFESSIONALS WITH PROFESSIONALS, POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT CURRENT BUDGET MAY BE INSUFFICIENT.

9. SABURI DISCLOSED DRAFT LETTER TO SCIREP INDICATING THAT CARRYOVER FUNDS DESIGNATED AS RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE FUNDS AND THAT WHILE FUNDS COULD BE USED FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN PERSONNEL RETIREMENT, CONSULTATION WITH FIN MIN AND MHW NEEDED PRIOR TO SUCH USE.

10. SCIREP INDICATED THAT ERA/NAS ALSO INVOLVED IN MAKING SUCH DECISION AND SUGGESTED THAT LETTER SO STATE. ALSO SUGGESTED THAT PRIOR TO TRANSMITTAL OF LETTER, RERF BE CONSULTED AS TO PRACTICABILITY OF USING: A) ALL CURRENT FUNDS, B) CARRYOVER FUNDS AS DIRECTED BY BOARD. FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT RERF BE ASKED TO WORK OUT PLAN JOINTLY ACCEPTABLE TO MHW"FIN MIN AND ERDA/NAS. SABURI AGREED TO AMEND LETTER ACCORDINGLY.

11. SCIREP SUBSEQUENTLY DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH FINCH WHO INDICATED THAT NEW RERF JFY 1977 BUDGET JUST REACHED HIM. INITIAL REACTION TO ABOVE RECOMMENDATION WAS PREFERENCE THAT DECISION ON DISPOSITION CARRYOVER FUNDS BE POSTPONED UNTIL CURRENT BUDGET AND PROGRAM BETTER DEFINED AND UNDERSTOOD, WITH PROVISIO THAT FUNDS NOT RPT NOT BE LABELLED AS RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE.

12. COMMENT. SCIREP BELIEVES THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO MAJOR INFLUENCES IN GOJ CNTRIBUTING TO CURRENT PROBLEM:

A. SABURI DID NOT COORDINATE PLAN AND PRIOR COMMUNICATIONS WELL WITHIN GOJ AND FIN MIN DID NOT AGREE WITH APPROACH, NEW TO THEM, OF USING CARRYOVER FUNDS RATHER THAN RETURNING TO TREASURY.

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B. JAPANESE, AFTER HAVING OBSERVED US RUN PROGRAM FOR 25 YEARS, AND NOW EXPECTING EQUAL VOICE, FOUND: 1) US AGGRESSIVELY PUSHING FOR BGS PROGRAM WHICH JAPANESE LUKEWARM ABOUT, AND 2) US SQUELCHING LOW DOSE STUDIES WHICH JAPANESE BELIEVE THEMSELVES PRESSURED INTO. JAPANESE MAY BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT EQUALITY OF MANAGEMENT AND FEEL THEY HAVE HAD TOO LITTLE TO SAY.

13. ON RELATED SUBJECT, NAMELY LOW DOSE STUDIES, SABURI RESTATED FACT THAT MHW EXPERIENCING PRESSURE FROM LDP FOR DATA WHICH, IN LIGHT OF JAPAN'S VERY HEAVILY PLANNED DEPENDENCE UPON NUCLEAR FOR ELECTRIC POWER, SHOWS THAT: 1) EFFECTS LOW LEVEL RADIATION ON POPULACE NEGLIGILBY SMALL, 2) GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED ENOUGH IN SUBJECT TO SPEND MONEY TO FIND OUT FOR

ITSELF WHAT FACTS ARE. SABURI INDICATED THAT RERF COMING IN WITH PROPOSAL PERHAPS IN 5 TO 25 REM REGION RATHER THAN .05 TO .5 AS PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED FOR LOW DOSE STUDY PROGRAM.

14. SUBSEQUENTLY FINCH NOTED THAT 60 M YEN ITEM IN RERF JFY 1977 BUDGET FOR LOW DOSE STUDIES WHICH WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY RERF AMONGST EIGHT MEDICAL LABS, ONE OF WHICH WOULD BE RERF ITSELF.

15. FINCH INDICATED HE IS PREPARING LETTER FOR ERDA/NAS ON HIS EVALUATION OF: A) BUDGET, B) LOW DOSE STUDIES.
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